

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

January 26, 1998

A. CALL TO ORDER

The January 26, 1998, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Tommy Lewis, Board President.

James Albert Riley, the DeSoto County Sheriff was present and did open the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a regular session to hear any and all business to come before the Board. The following were present:

Jessie Medlin-----District 1
Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
James D. Pearson-----District 3, Absent
John Caldwell-----District 4
Tommy Lewis-----District 5
W. E. "Sluggo" Davis-----Chancery Clerk
James Albert Riley-----Sheriff
Clovis Reed-----County Administrator
William H. Austin, Jr.-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was presented by County Administrator Clovis Reed.

C. JANE HEIDLEBURG - Personnel Manual

The Board of Supervisors asked Jane Heidleburg to schedule a working meeting to address all of the areas of concern of the personnel manual. Ms. Heidleburg will be out of town for three weeks and the Board directed the meeting to be set after her return.

D. BID OPENING - Park Study Proposals

Bids were received and acknowledged for the park study as follows:

1. Neel Schaffer
2. RWB & Associates
3. Weatherford/McDade Ltd.
4. Fischer & Arnold, Inc.
5. Allen & Hoshall

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to take the bids under advisement. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Item D., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

E. **HERNANDO CONCERNED COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Mr. Clifford Robertson and Ms. Gemeni Bowdre appeared before the Board of Supervisors representing the Hernando Concerned Community Volunteers. Mr. Robertson said he appreciated the Board’s time to review their request and the Board’s support over the years. HCCV is a organized group interested in the youth of Hernando. HCCV is making a conscious attempt to end the separation between schools and community. They try to provide an environment conducive to learning. HCCV trys to create a sense of responsibility through a diverse learning effort. They use free services in the county, such as the library and recreational facilities. They have no direct dealings with commerce. They focus on grades K-9. HCCV is able to save money by volunteers providing a well rounded focus of services. Their scope of development includes a social grace program; a grandparents program; retreats at Victory Valley; a trip to Williamsburg, Virginia in August; and a Scared Straight Program. Mr. Robertson said that with growth comes financial concerns. They are thankful for their past contributions and presented a booklet with their request for funding outlined.

Ms. Gemeni Bowdre said she had lived her life to promote concerns for young people.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked for a list of contributors and their contributions, as well as a budget for the organization.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked which children HCCV serves and how they get into the program. Mr. Robertson answered they send letters to churches, and said this program is open to all children K - 9th Grade.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked how many children they serve. Clifford Robertson said 30 have signed up for the coming year so far. Supervisor Thach asked if any other organizations provide this service. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said there is such an organization in Olive Branch. Mr. Robertson said some of these organizations provide basketball only, where theirs is a year round program.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to take this request under advisement until Tuesday, February 17, 1998. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit E.

F. **BRUCE ARCHER - Thompson Cove**

County Administrator Clovis Reed said that Mr. Archer called in December and requested to discuss the issue of the Thompson Cove road with the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Archer said he is interested in solving the problem.

Supervisor Caldwell said he went to Thompson Cove as authorized by the Board earlier and tried to work out a solution to the problem. At that time the Thompson's would not agree to any concessions to fix the problem.

Bruce Archer said Danny Rutherford did a survey two years ago and he is willing to go by that survey. Mr. Archer said he anticipates the Harrison's subdividing the property. Then they will have to give a right of way according to Mr. Archer.

Mr. Archer said he built the road in question as a driveway. It is not a road. The latest court order said the County should put in a road on the section line. Mr. Archer said he is not asking for a road. Mr. Archer said he will go by any legal survey of the property. Mr. Archer said the court order and the supreme court order both said what should be done with the property.

Supervisor John Caldwell said if the property is subdivided, they will have to get a road. Mr. Archer said he speculates that to be their plans, but does not know for sure.

Mr. Archer suggested certain actions by the Board. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said he would not sooner take action against the Harrison's in their absence than he would take action against Mr. Archer in his absence.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to take the matter under advisement pending the filing of a subdivision in the area. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. Jessie Kennedy - Financial Report for E911

Jessie Kennedy and Commissioner White appeared before the Board of Supervisors at the Boards request to discuss the finances of E911. Supervisor Thach said the County is paying for service at .80 cents, when Memphis is collecting .25 cents. Supervisor Thach asked if our rate can be lowered.

Commissioner White said DeSoto County is in the process of studying several system improvements. Mr. White said when telephone rates increased in other locations, DeSoto County elected not to implement an increase. In addition to the pending studies, DeSoto County is looking at using microwaves, and some of these systems run two to three million dollars. They are currently getting estimates for these necessary improvements, and their intent is to implement changes with current revenues, and without a rate increase.

Jessie Kennedy notified the Board of Supervisors that wireless providers have put a \$1.00 collection fee on the table in talks of current legislation. They want to keep

Item G.1., Continued,

.35 cents of it. If this legislation passes, it will cut DeSoto County's funds by .15 cents. Mr. Kennedy is following the situation and should know soon if it will pass. Supervisor Eugene Thach clarified that this is for wireless service only. Mr. Kennedy said this is for wireless service only.

Commissioner White said this existing equipment is 15 years old. Technology is Changing. Equipment must be updated. When 911 service started the County did not have the option to bid out the service. Now we can. It is possible that could save some money.

Jessie Kennedy addressed Supervisor Thach's question concerning a rate cut. Mr. Kennedy said that of the 1997 budget, 53% was used for yearly, monthly, and daily operations. Expenses were 85% of collections. If not for these necessary program enhancements, we could reduce rates.

Commissioner White said his recommendation would be to maintain at the present rate.

The Board of Supervisors thanked the E911 representatives for their report.
See Exhibit G.1.

2. T. H. Walker - Review of VESSG Brochure Changes and Inventory List

T. H. Walker of DeSoto County Civil Defense came before the Board of Supervisors to report to the Board of Civil Defense inventory and the VESSG brochure. Mr. Walker said the Board Attorney, William Austin has edited and approved VESSG's brochure. Mr. Walker passed around the brochure indicating the changes recommended by Mr. Austin for the Board's approval. Mr. Walker pointed out a disclaimer statement that has been added to the program indicating VESSG is not acting on behalf of DeSoto County.

Supervisor John Caldwell said a VESSG representative came by his house last week and they presented themselves as representing the County.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked why the disclaimer was not put on the front of the document. T. H. Walker said the disclaimer can be moved to the front.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked how much money Civil Defense gets from VESSG. Mr. Walker said approximately \$20,000.00 per year.

Supervisor asked if all Board members are happy with the brochure including the disclaimer. The Board agreed they are satisfied.

Mr. Walker notified the Board of Supervisors that his inventory is in order.

3. Bids Under Advisement - Publication of Board Proceedings

In accordance with Section 19-3-33 of the Mississippi Code, which states that the Board of Supervisors may have its proceedings published in some newspaper published in the County, and cause the same to be paid for out of the County treasury, but the costs of such publication shall not exceed the sum fixed by law for publishing legal notices. If there be more than one newspaper published in the County, the contract for publishing the proceedings, if made, shall be let to the lowest bidder among them. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John

Item G.3., Continued,

Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the low bid from The DeSoto County
Tribune for the publication of Board Proceedings at a cost of .08 cents per word.
The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.3.

4. Bids Under Advisement - Equipment Rental

Margaret Stevens, Director of Purchasing and Kenny Gunn, DeSoto County Road Manager came before the Board of Supervisors to discuss the bids for equipment rental. Kenny Gunn said he recommends accepting the low bids.

After reviewing the bids, Supervisor Tommy Lewis said the prices on the bid would mandate the equipment be used constantly during the rental period to justify for the use of the cost of the rental.

Board Attorney William Austin read Section 65-7-95 of the Mississippi Code, which explains that you have to be need specific to rent equipment.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked of the Board can bid for the rental of equipment in case of an emergency. Mr. Austin said, in his opinion, that would not be legal.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin suggested purchasing some used equipment for use in the case of a breakdown. Supervisor Medlin reminded the Board that this is on the Legislative Wish List.

County Administrator left the meeting to contact the State Auditors office. Upon return, he reported that Mr. Grayson of the Auditors office said the statute is need specific. He said Mr. Grayson also suggested getting an AG's Opinion on the issue. Mr. Reed mentioned this was part of the Legislative Wish List. The Board of Supervisors asked the Board Attorney to get the AG's Opinion as discussed.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to take the bids under advisement. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.4.

5. Codification of Board Orders

Upon review of the proposal to codify Board Orders, and upon the recommendation of the Director of Administrative Services and the Board Attorney, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to

Item G.5., Continued,

negotiate the services for the codification of Board orders as indicated in the this effort. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.5.

6. Committee to Review Sewer Study Proposals (D. Murphy, M. Powell, C. Reed, B. Austin, #? Representatives from the Public)

Supervisor Tommy Lewis discussed forming the committee to review the sewer study proposals. Supervisor Lewis asked if the Board would like to include members of the public. The supervisors agreed this would be premature to review the proposals. The Board agreed to include Daniel Murphy, County Engineer, Merritt Powell, Director of Planning, Clovis Reed, County Administrator, and Bill Austin, Board Attorney on the committee.

7. Bid for Ceiling at Women's Tank at the Jail

The County Administrator presented a recommendation from the Director of Purchasing concerning to bids under advisement for the ceiling at the women's tank at the DeSoto County jail. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if DeSoto County has liability? The Board discussed the 30 day time frame in relation to the 90 day time frame to complete the work. Supervisor Jessie Medlin pointed out that since 90 days was in the specifications, the contractor who quoted 30 days still has 90 days to complete the project before the penalty would start.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the low bid for the ceiling at the women's tank at the DeSoto County jail as presented by Custom Construction. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.7.

8. Annual Report of Jail Inspection

In accordance with Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated of 1972, which states that at least annually, and as often as it may think proper, the Board of Supervisors, or a competent person authorized by the Board of Supervisors, shall examine into the state and condition of the jail, in regard to its safety, sufficiency and accommodation of the prisoners, and from time to time take such legal measures as may best tend to secure the prisoners against escape, sickness and infection, and have the jail cleansed. Having completed such inspection the Board of Supervisors has taken appropriate steps to look into areas of concern at the DeSoto County jail including an upgrade of several security devices.

Item G.8., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to acknowledge the inspection of the DeSoto County jail by the Board of Supervisors as outlined in Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated, and to accept the latest semi annual jail inspection report from the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.8.

9. Appointment - Jury Commission

the Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded motion to approve the recommendation of Chancellor Dennis Baker to appoint James Sandy to the DeSoto County Jury Commission. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.9.

10. Authorization for Board President to Execute Reporting Worksheets for CDBG Projects - Nesbit Water and Hacks Cross Road

the Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded motion to authorize the Board President to execute the Reporting Worksheets for the period of December, 1997, in connection with Nesbit Water Project and Hacks Cross Road project. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.10.

11. Dale Thompson

a. Investment of Surplus Funds

In accordance with Section 19-2-29 of the Mississippi Code, which states that

whenever any county shall have on hand any bond and interest funds, any funds
Item G.11.a., Continued,

derived from the sale of bonds, special funds, or any other funds in excess of the sums which will be required to meet the current needs and demands of no more than seven (7) business days, the Board of Supervisors of such county shall invest such excess funds.

At the recommendation of the Comptroller, Dale Thompson, Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the investment of surplus funds to Trustmark National Bank for \$26,835,712.00 for 20 days, and for Peoples Bank & Trust for \$915,000.00 for 33 days. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.11.a.

b. Budget Transfer - Metro Narcotics

That on the 2nd day of September, 1997, this Board of Supervisors did adopt a County Budget prepared under the provisions of Section 19-11-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 1997, and ending September 30, 1998. That this date, Ms. Dale Thompson, Comptroller, requests that the following transfers be made pursuant to the authority vested in this Board under the provisions of Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as budgeted:

From	623-900-950	Metro Narcotics Seized Funds	\$357.00
To	105-000-384	Metro Narcotics Forfeitures	\$357.00

and,

From	001-900-950	General County	\$100,000.00
To	110-000-384	County Ambulance	\$100,000.00

and,

From	105-227-950	Metro Narcotics Forfeitures	\$15,000.00
To	115-000-384	Metro Narcotics Grant	\$15,000.00

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the budget transfers as recommended by the Comptroller. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Item G.11.b.

Item G.11., Continued,

c. Budget Amendment - Operations & Maintenance

Comptroller Dale Thompson said Operations & Maintenance needs money moved into their budget due to the mail being moved to their department. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked why this money could not be moved from the department previously handling the mail. Ms. Thompson said the mail was left out of that budget, but not added to the Operations & Maintenance budget. This request is for the rental and maintenance of the machine.

At the recommendation of the Comptroller, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve, pursuant to Section 19-11-19 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, amending the Operations & Maintenance operating budget as stated above. This portion of the minutes shall be forwarded to the Comptroller, and the Operations & Maintenance Department. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.11.c

		From 623-900-950	Metro Seized	\$840.00
To	105-000-384	Metro Forfeitures	\$840.00	

d. Budget Transfer

See Item G.11.be

12. Hernando Civic Center

Supervisor Tommy Lewis notified the Board of Supervisors that Hernando Civic Center is now a non-profit organization, and they have asked for a donation for improvements for the ball part of the facility. Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve a donation of \$12,000.00 from the District 5 Park Fund to the Hernando Civic Center subject to the approval of the Board Attorney. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit G.12.

13. Margaret Stevens - Request to Approve Pat Stewart to Attend Course and Subsequent Budget Amendment

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin

seconded the motion to authorize Pat Stewart to attend the course and
Item G.13., Continued,

included that on the 2nd day of September, 1997, this Board of Supervisors did adopt a County Budget prepared under the provisions of

Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 1997, and ending September 30, 1998. That this date, Ms. Dale Thompson, Comptroller, requests that the following transfers be made pursuant to the authority vested in this Board under the provisions of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 19-11-19 as budgeted:

From	001-122-475	Travel out of County	\$100.00
To	001-122-476	Meals and Lodging	\$100.00

and,

From	001-122-934	Office Furniture & Fixtures	\$120.00
To	001-122-587	Training & Registration	\$120.00

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin	-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach	-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson	-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell	-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis	-----Yes

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Terry Wallace - Youth Services

Terry Wallace of Youth Services came before the Board of Supervisors to request funding for a representative from Youth Services to attend a training workshop called the National Conference on Juvenile Justice. Mr. Wallace presented a breakdown of the requested funds totaling \$1,500.00.

County Administrator Clovis Reed said that Chester Beasley of Youth Services said he does not have any money in his budget for this trip. Terry Wallace agreed they have looked at the budget and there is no excess for the trip.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked who will go on the trip and when. Mr. Wallace said they plan a rotation of Youth Service counselors each year for the trip.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked about the travel budget for Youth Services. County Administrator Clovis Reed said there is \$300.00 for in County travel and \$300.00 for out of County travel. Terry Wallace said they often have to supplement other areas of their budget with their travel money.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked what the books are for. Terry Wallace explained the books are for informational materials that would be available at the conference that would be beneficial to the office.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked what the date of the conference is. Mr. Wallace said the conference is scheduled for March.

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code for the Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the

Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1997, and ending September 30, 1998.

Item H.1., Continued,

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve a budget amendment for Youth Services to add \$1,000.00 to their budget to be used for this aforementioned trip to the national convention for Juvenile Justice from the General Fund Balance. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Lower	001-901-999	General Fund Balance	\$1,000.00
Increase	001-164-476	Youth Services - Travel	\$ 400.00
Increase	001-164-479		\$ 275.00
Increase	001-164-587		\$ 325.00

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit H.1.

2. Glad Bag-A-Thon

Supervisor John Caldwell he had received information about the Glad-bag-a-thon explaining that Glad provides trash bags for a spring clean up. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if this can tie in with our clean up day. Supervisor Caldwell said yes.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the

motion to participate in the Glad-Bag-A-Thon and instruct the road manager to give them the number of bags needed. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

3. Change In Tax Bill to Reflect Breakdown for City/County/School

Supervisor Eugene Thach said he would like the tax bills to reflect a breakdown of city, county, and school taxes. The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, told the Board of Supervisors that the Tax Collector is against this change. Supervisor Tommy Lewis suggested holding the item over to allow the Tax Collector to discuss the matter with the Board of Supervisors.

4. Approval of Invoice From TDL

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, presented an invoice from TDL for work at the Walls Library. The Board of Supervisors asked if the county is doing inspections on the job. Jim Bearden, Director of Operations and Maintenance said yes.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve payment of the invoice from TDL in the amount of \$42,093.00.

The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Item H.4., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

5. Approval of Medical Examinations for Victims of Crimes

In accordance with Section 99-37-25 of the Mississippi Code, Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve

the payment for medical examinations and laboratory tests conducted for the purpose of procuring evidence to aid in the investigation and prosecution of a crime. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

6. Authorization for Board President to Execute Two Grant Close-out Packages for Home Grants for Dehon Village

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the Board President to execute the grant close out documents in connection with two grants for Dehon Village. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

8. Metro Narcotics - Approval to Declare Certain Items as Surplus Inventory

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to approve the items listed in Exhibit H.8 as surplus. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Absent

See Exhibit H.8.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to recess until 2:00 p.m. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Absent

I. OTHER ISSUES

1. Emergency Service

Bobby Storey, Director of Fire/EMS and Jim Bearden, Director of Operations and Maintenance came before the Board of Supervisors to notify the Board of Supervisors to discuss needs of Emergency Services in the County.

Mr. Bearden reported that the recent annexation of the City of Hernando expanded their area of emergency service. Therefore, Mr. Storey recommends purchasing rescue equipment for the south end of the County to be stored in Love. Mr. Bearden explained that Hernando's coverage area is now much further north than before the annexation.

Secondly, Mr. Storey recommends returning to 12 hour shifts for the Fire Department dispatchers. The Board of Supervisors discussed dispatching in the County. Supervisor Eugene Thach said he is in favor of a separate office to handle the County's dispatch needs. County Administrator said that all agreed with Supervisor Thach, but they were unable to get cooperation to make that happen. Supervisor John Caldwell said he thinks Bobby Storey should make the decision concerning the hours worked by the Fire Department dispatchers. Supervisor Thach said he does not agree. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked why it is necessary to change from 12 hours to 8 hours. Bobby Storey said the same problems that led to the change in hours are still occurring. Mr. Storey explained the problems associated

with scheduling and said some shifts now have 1 person covering, rather than 2. Consequently, when someone is out he has to cover the shift. Recently he had to work 16 hours to cover the dispatch office. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked how there can be two people covering on 12 hour shifts. Mr. Storey responded that on 12 hour shifts there are two dispatchers at night, and one during the day. He and Helen Breshears cover as back-up during the day.

The Board discussed the heavy times of the day for calls and the problems and benefits of having two rather than one person covering the office.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked how the ambulance people are working. Bobby Storey said they work 24 hours. Supervisor Medlin asked which are peak times.

Mr. Storey said 5:00 until 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 until 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. daily and 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. on the weekends. Supervisor Medlin said he still thinks that someone is going to have to work 12 hour shifts. Bobby Storey said his wife has been working to help with the training. Mr. Storey said the dispatchers have been easy to work with and have backed his efforts to solve the problems.

Supervisor John Caldwell suggested allowing the Director of Fire/EMS to schedule the shifts. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he does not have a problem with that, but he wants them to work for the betterment of DeSoto County, and said he would ask the scheduling be organized with that in mind. Supervisor Lewis said he would like to have the offices covered with two per shift.

Item I.1., Continued,

County Administrator Clovis Reed asked if going from part time to full time would help the situation. Mr. Storey said it would help.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to leave scheduling the shifts in the Fire dispatch department to the discretion of the EMS Director. and ask him to make sure the county is covered 24 hours a day 7 days a week and to further authorize changing the part time position to a full time position. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----No
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

time
Mr. Storey also requests authorization to change the part time employee to a full employee and said the county would save money from the overtime the county pays.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to go out for bids for rescue equipment as recommended by the Director of Fire/EMS. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

hired
Supervisor Thach explained his "no" vote was because all county employees are by the Board of Supervisors. Therefore, the Board is responsible for them and the Board should be responsible for setting the hours and knowing the schedules.
Bobby Storey said he assured the Board that he would come to the Board before he did anything drastic. The Board Attorney agreed that passing this authority to Mr. Storey is the right of the Board and they can vote to take back the authority at any time. Supervisor Lewis asked Mr. Storey to report back to the Board as to the schedule he sets.

2. Inventory

Supervisor John Caldwell suggested asked the Road Manager to do a facility site inventory in Central Maintenance. Supervisor Caldwell said he asked Kenny Gunn about some of the equipment on the inventory report and found that some of the inventory has been sold. The County Administrator suggested asking the inventory clerk to join the meeting. Ms. Bonnie Gatlin did join the meeting. Mr. Reed suggested asking the inventory clerk the procedures to follow to make sure the assets are recorded accurately. Ms. Gatlin said all changes in inventory are supposed to be reported to her office. Chancery Clerk W.E. "Sluggo" Davis said the

inventory clerk could start doing an inspection once a year. Supervisor Caldwell said he wants to have the site inventory done in Central Maintenance. Vanessa Lynchard acknowledged that Ms. Gatlin has not received information to keep the inventory accurately.

Item I.2..., continued,

The Board Attorney said inventory can be disposed of through an auction, trade-in, sheriff's report, or inventory sheet.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to direct the Road Manager to do a facility site inventory in Central Maintenance. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

3. County Credit Card Limit Increase

At the recommendation of the County Administrator, Clovis Reed, Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the increase of the credit limit on the county credit card to \$10,000.00. (This increase did not include the procurement cards.) The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

4. Approval of Travel for County Administrator

The County Administrator, Clovis Reed, reported to the Board of Supervisors on his recent travel to Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. Reed notified the Board of Supervisors of some of the contacts he made during his trip. Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the per diem travel for Mr. Reed for this trip. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

5. Homesteads

At the recommendation of Chancery Clerk W. E. "Sluggo" Davis, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the changes in homesteads as presented. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

See Exhibit I.5.

Item I., Continued,

6. Clovis Reed, Award of Top Forty Under 40

An invitation was forwarded to the Board of Supervisors to attend the awards luncheon for the Top Forty Under 40, which will be presented to County Administrator Clovis Reed on January 29, 1998.

7. Road Manager, Kenny Gunn

a. Four Year Road Plan

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn presented a **working copy** of the Four Year Road Plan for review of the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if the Road Manager has found out how much money he will carry over to continue work listed on the 1997 Plan. The Road Manager said \$2,000,000.00 and the Comptroller said we should have \$600,000.00 in revenues. Mr. Gunn said all money we are spending now is coming from bond money. Supervisor Thach said work on Church Road, Getwell Road and more was supposed to be done in 1997. Mr. Gunn said that work is being paid from the 1997 budget.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked if the Road Manager had put all roads he has discussed on the list. Mr. Gunn said he has not gotten all of the roads on the list, and still has a lot of roads to add.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked where Mr. Gunn got the amount listed on the Highway 301 overlay. Kenny Gunn said that was on the list from last year.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin reminded the Road Manager that they had discussed finishing out Byhalia Road. Kenny Gunn said that has not been added to the list yet.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said he wants to make sure all work scheduled on the 1997 Plan gets done with 1997 money. **See Exhibit I.7.a.**

b. Truck Burned

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, reported that a truck caught on fire. There were no injuries from the fire, but the truck was lost.

c. Lauderdale Road

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, notified the Board of Supervisors that the pavement on this road stopped 150' short of the end of the road. The garbage truck has been tearing up the part not maintained by the County. The County has been asked to fix the part torn up by BFI. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the County trucks had done some of the damage. Kenny Gunn said yes when they work working on the other part of the road. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if this is a private drive. Kenny Gunn said yes. Supervisor Jessie Medlin

asked why they are saying the County tore up the road. The Board Attorney said the was fixing the turnarounds and had to use the driveway.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve fixing the driveway based on the fact that the County damaged the road. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Item I.7.c., Continued,

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----Yes
Supervisor Eugene Thach-----Yes
Supervisor James Pearson-----Absent
Supervisor John Caldwell-----Yes
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----Yes

d. Hacks Cross Road

Supervisor John Caldwell said the Board needs to verify with the Mayor of Olive Branch as to whether we are going to third the cost of the Hacks Cross Road project. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said the Board had already done that. The Board directed the County Administrator's office to verify the last order of the Board.

e. County Road Clean Up

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said the County needs to work with the Justice Court Judges to coordinate workers for the County Roads.

8. Horn Lake Annexation

Supervisor Tommy Lewis notified the public attending the meeting bringing concerns about the county's participation in the Horn Lake annexation, that the Board of Supervisors has taken into consideration 5 issues concerning the annexation. They are:

- 1. Roads,
- 2. Fire Department,
- 3. Garbage Service - Coordination for changing service,
- 4. EMS, and
- 5. Gaps and islands, if any.

Supervisor Lewis further stated that the Board of Supervisors had not voted to oppose the annexation, but to look into the issues as to the effect on the County.

Mr. H. R. Critchfield asked if the Board of Supervisors has read a book on centralized government. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he has not. Mr. Critchfield asked how to get this item on the ballot to allow a vote on the issue. Mr. Critchfield said "the cities are cutting each others throats and we are the ones bleeding." Mr. Critchfield said he would like to know how to get this item on the ballot.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said that no final action will be taken tomorrow on the annexation. Mr. Allen Frumpton asked who will hear the case, and said the people need to call the judge.

Claudia Neibanc spoke on behalf of some of the other citizens present on behalf of

the annexation. Mr. Neibanc said that several other people would have liked to have been present with the group, but could not attend due to other commitments or illness. Ms. Neibanc speculated that the people's opinion has not been considered on this case, and this group is asking the Board to represent the taxpayers that are being annexed.

Item I.8., Continued,

Supervisor Eugene Thach said the State of Mississippi has a law for filing annexations. Supervisor Thach said this is not the business of the Board of Supervisors, and said the proper avenue for an objection is to tell the judge as he is the one with the right to rule on this issue.

Claudia Neibanc said this group respectfully differs in opinion, because they feel the people elected the Board of Supervisors and her group represents at least 10% of the people.

Supervisor John Caldwell said he sympathizes and would like to take a stronger stance on the issue, but said this is much more involvement than was done in other annexations. Ms. Neibanc pointed out that in other annexations people did not object, and said the people want a show of support from the Board of Supervisors as their representatives.

At the citizens request, Supervisor Tommy Lewis read a letter from Mr. Neibanc aloud.

filing Supervisor John Caldwell asked if, in effect, the Board is filing an objection. Board Attorney, Bill Austin said yes. Supervisor Caldwell explained that the County is an objection on only certain issues of the annexation, and said that is only fair as the Board represents both sides of the issue.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Board is not opposing the annexation. We are asking for more information on the five issues.

Mr. Don Cox said that in the last meeting the Board of Supervisors instructed the Board Attorney to look into the issues of the annexation, and asked what he has done. Supervisor Caldwell said he has looked into everything he has had time and direction to address.

Another citizen asked how long it will take to implement services if the annexation is passed, as he is building a home and would like to know. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he cannot answer that question.

Supervisor John Caldwell said he has scheduled a public meeting at the Horn Lake American Legion building to address the issue and will not set a time limit.

Mr. Ernie Baker asked how many miles of road will be annexed. Supervisor John Caldwell said the Board Attorney has looked into the roads but has not determined the exact mileage in the proposed annexation.

Supervisor Eugene Thach said the Board feels the city should get the roads when annexations are complete. Supervisor Thach said funds have to be turned over, so responsibilities of road maintenance should be with the cities also. The Board is trying to get that area of responsibility cleared up.

Mr. Allen Frumpton suggested petitioning to stop the annexation.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to adjourn until Monday, February 2, 1998, at 9:00. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 26th day of January, 1998, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

TOMMY LEWIS, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors